

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 293048 TOSEC 120047
ORIGIN PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /002 R

DRAFTED BY S/PRS:JMEDEIROS
APPROVED BY S/PRS:JHTRATTNER
S/S-O :LRFLEISCHER

-----103814 081753Z /62

O 081722Z DEC 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 293048 TOSEC 120047

FOR HODDING CARTER FROM S/PRS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R.)

SUBJECT: MORNING TRAVELLING PRESS SUMMARY, DECEMBER 8

NO. 6

WIRES

UPI -- JIM ANDERSON FROM BRUSSELS

LEAD: "THE US IS ASKING ITS NATO PARTNERS IF THEY WANT
THE NEUTRON BOMB AND ASSURING THEM IT WON'T WITHHOLD
ANOTHER SUPERWEAPON FROM EUROPE'S DEFENSIVE ARSENAL -- THE
CRUISE MISSILE."

OTHER POINTS:

-- US OFFICIALS SAID THEY AWAITING FIRM NATO REQUEST
BEFORE GOING AHEAD WITH FURTHER PRODUCTION AND DEPLOYMENT
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 293048 TOSEC 120047

OF NEUTRON BOMB, SAID BOMB WOULD BE USEFUL ONLY IN DEFENSE
OF EUROPE. IF THERE IS NO NATO DEMAND, US WOULD PROBABLY
SCRAP PROGRAM.

-- VANCE REPORTED INTENDING TO TELL NAC WASHINGTON WILL
NOT DO ANYTHING TO ADVERSELY AFFECT STRATEGIC BALANCE AND
WILL MAKE NO DECISIONS WITHOUT CONSULTING EUROPEANS.

-- BROWN MADE SIMILAR POINTS IN PRESS CONF YESTERDAY.

-- EUROPEANS ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT CHEAP, HIGHLY ACCURATE CRUISE MISSILE. SOME EUROPEANS HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN US WOULD BARGAIN IT AWAY IN NEGOTIATION WITH USSR.

-- JANE'S CRITICIZED SCRAPPING OF B-1, SAYING CARTER MAY HAVE SOWN SEEDS OF DEFEAT FOR THE WEST.

-- VANCE CONFERRED WITH OWEN ON SITUATION IN RHODESIA.

AP -- NO BYLINE FROM BRUSSELS

LEAD: "SECSTATE VANCE REASSURED AMERICA'S ALLIES TODAY THAT THE US IS KEEPING THEIR (SIC) OPTIONS OPEN IN TALKS WITH THE SOVIETS ON STRATEGIC NUCLEAR MISSILES, WHICH HE CALLED THE HEART OF EAST-WEST RELATIONS."

OTHER POINTS:

-- US DIPLOMAT RELAYED ACCOUNT OF VANCE'S SPEECH IN CLOSED MEETING.

-- VANCE SAID HE WAS TRYING FOR AGREEMENT WITH SOVIETS THAT WOULD RESTRICT ONLY DEPLOYMENT OF CRUISE MISSILE FOR UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 293048 TOSEC 120047

THREE YEARS. THAT WOULD ALLOW RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT TO CONTINUE.

-- STRESSED HE WAS LISTENING TO ALLIED VIEWS AND INTENDS TO GO ON WORKING WITH THEM TO SEE MUTUAL CONCERNS ARE MET.

-- EUROPEANS ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN CRUISE MISSILE BECAUSE THEY COMPARATIVELY CHEAP. SOME SAID TO BE WORRIED ABOUT PRESSURE THAT IS BOUND TO BE FELT AT END OF THREE YEARS TO RENEW AGREEMENT INDEFINITELY AND EFFECTIVELY BAN CRUISE MISSILE.

REUTERS -- NO BYLINE FROM BRUSSELS

LEAD: "SECSTATE VANCE AND BRITISH FONSEC OWEN HELD SPECIAL BREAKFAST MEETING TODAY TO DISCUSS FALTERING ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS FOR RHODESIA INDEPENDENCE SETTLEMENT."

OTHER POINTS:

-- OWEN LATER TOLD REPORTERS HE STILL AIMED TO GET NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT, BUT SAID IF SETTLEMENT WAS TO BE INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE IT WOULD STILL HAVE TO BE WITHIN

PARAMETERS OF ANGLO-AMERICAN PLAN. THAT PLAN CALLS FOR BLACK MAJORITY RULE AND LEGAL INDEPENDENCE BY END OF NEXT YEAR.

-- MEETING FOLLOWED KAUNDA'S REBUFF TO PLAN.

-- OWEN SAID MOST URGENT NEED WAS TO PUT END TO GUERRILLA FIGHTING AND NEGOTIATE CEASEFIRE. SAID HE STILL CONSIDERED IT IMPORTANT FOR SMITH TO GET INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED SETTLEMENT. SAID PACE OF ANGLO-AMERICAN INITIATIVE HAD VARIED FROM MONTH TO MONTH, BUT THAT STEADY PROGRESS WAS BEING MADE.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 293048 TOSEC 120047

-- SAID ELECTIONS ARE WAY TO RESOLVE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN VARIOUS RHODESIAN GROUPS, BUT SAID HE COULD NOT YET BE SURE WHAT SMITH WAS UP TO IN HIS RECENT MOVES.

-- HODDING CARTER TOLD REPORTERS THERE WAS GREAT DEAL OF CONFUSION OVER SMITH'S REAL INTENTIONS AND HIS DECLARATION SUPPORTING ADULT SUFFRAGE. SAID ANGLO-AMERICAN PLAN WAS "FAR FROM DEAD."

NEWSPAPERS

WASH POST -- JOHN GOSHKO FROM BRUSSELS

LEAD: "THERE WON'T BE ANY FIREWORKS. ANY HINTS OF FRICTION WILL BE MUTED. BUT, WHEN SECSTATE VANCE MEETS OTHER NATO FONMINS IN BRUSSELS TODAY, ALL WILL BE AWARE THAT US-WEST EUROPEAN RELATIONS ARE AGAIN BESET BY STRAIN."

OTHER POINTS:

-- QUOTES "ADMINISTRATION POLICYMAKER" THAT WHILE THERE IS NO CRISIS, THERE IS FEELING OF MALAISE AND DRIFT, ROOTED LESS IN SUBSTANCE THAN IN "NONSPECIFICS -- CALL THEM VIBES OR ATMOSPHERICS."

-- DIPLOMATIC SOURCES ON BOTH SIDES OF ATLANTIC ECHO THAT ASSESSMENT, "AGREE ALMOST UNANIMOUSLY THAT ELEMENT OF ARMS-LENGTH WARINESS HAS CREPT INTO US-EUROPEAN RELATIONS IN MONTHS SINCE CARTER TOOK OVER." THEY NOTE IT IS CYCLICAL PHENOMENON WHICH OCCURS WHENEVER NEW ADMINISTRATION COMES TO WASHINGTON.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 293048 TOSEC 120047

-- FOR MANY EUROPEAN GOVTS, LATEST CHANGE HAS BEEN PARTICULARLY TRAUMATIC; THEY FELT ESPECIALLY COMFORTABLE WITH PRECEDING ADMINISTRATION, AND HAVE HAD HARD TIME UNDERSTANDING CARTER ADMIN. IN POST-VIETNAM YEARS, KISSINGER HAD PLACED HEAVY EMPHASIS ON RELATIONS WITH WESTERN

EUROPE.

-- SENSE OF UNEASE NOT UNIFORM; IN LONDON, SKEPTICISM ABOUT CARTER'S EARLY "FOREIGN POLICY BY PRESS CONFERENCE" HAS GIVEN WAY TO ADMIRATION AND CLOSE SENSE OF PARTNERSHIP. IN BONN, HOWEVER, GERMAN OFFICIALS MAKE LITTLE SECRET OF FACT THAT THEIR FEELINGS ABOUT CARTER ADMIN ARE AT BEST MIXED.

-- IN ADDITION TO ATMOSPHERICS, THERE ARE NUMBER OF SPECIFIC UNRESOLVED PROBLEMS IN ALLIANCE. CHIEF AMONG THEM ARE FEARS THAT US MOVE TOWARDS SALT II COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT BALANCE OF WEST EUROPEAN DEFENSES AND THAT US ECONOMIC POLICY MAY BE AGGRAVATING EUROPEAN INFLATION AND UNEMPLOYMENT. BOTH OF THESE ARE MATTERS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN TO WEST GERMANY. RECENT REMARKS BY SCHMIDT IN LONDON HAVE REINFORCED IMPRESSION OF GERMAN UNEASE.

-- POTENTIAL FOR SUCH DIFFERENCES ALWAYS EXISTS; DIPLOMATIC OBSERVERS CONCERNED NOW BECAUSE MISUNDERSTANDINGS CAUSED BY ADMIN'S STYLE MAY MAKE THEM UNUSUALLY DIFFICULT TO RESOLVE.

-- ADMIN OFFICIALS, CONCEDED THAT NEW FACES HAD MADE EUROPEANS NERVOUS ABOUT ADMIN, NOTE THAT CARTER ABOUT TO MAKE HIS SECOND TRIP THIS YEAR TO NATO, AND SAY VANCE AND OTHERS PUSHING AHEAD TO KEEP UP CONSULTATIONS WITH EUROPEANS AND ESTABLISH CLOSE WORKING RELATIONS THAT WILL EASE TENSION.

-- ONE SOURCE POINTS OUT THAT MAIN FEAR DURING ADMIN'S UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 06 STATE 293048 TOSEC 120047

FIRST SIX MONTHS IN OFFICE WAS THAT US WOULD ALIENATE USSR AND BE UNABLE TO DEAL WITH IT EFFECTIVELY. NOW THE FEAR IS THAT US GETTING TOO CLOSE TO RUSSIANS AND MAY MAKE DEALS OVER HEADS OF ALLIES. "THAT," HE ASSERTS, "PROVES TWO THINGS: FIRST, THAT WE'RE NEVER GOING TO HAVE A SITUATION WHERE RELATIONS WITH EUROPE WILL BE COMPLETELY HARMONIOUS AND SECOND, THAT WE'VE MADE ENOUGH PROGRESS TO AT LEAST SHOW THE EUROPEANS THAT WE'RE NOT THE AMATEURS AND HAYSEEDS THEY THOUGHT WE WERE."

WASH POST -- MICHAEL GETLER FROM BRUSSELS

LEAD: "SECDEF BROWN SOUGHT TO ASSURE WESTERN EUROPEAN GOVTS TODAY THAT NEW SALT TREATY WOULD NOT BAR FUTURE NATO DEPLOYMENT OF TACTICAL CRUISE MISSILES."

OTHER POINTS:

-- BROWN, SPEAKING AT NEWS CONF, SAID SALT ACCORD NOW

TAKING SHAPE WOULD NOT PROHIBIT DEVELOPMENT AND TESTING OF SUCH WEAPONS. EUROPEAN GOVTS VIEW CRUISE MISSILE AS LOW-COST WAY OF OFFSETTING BUILDUP OF SOVIET FORCES IN CENTRAL EUROPE.

-- BRITISH AND WEST GERMAN OFFICIALS SAID THEY REASSURED BY BROWN'S EXPLANATIONS. NEVERTHELESS, SUBJECT EXTREMELY COMPLICATED AND MANY QUESTIONS REMAIN.

-- REFERENCES TO SHORT-RANGE LAND OR SEA-BASED CRUISE MISSILES THAT EUROPEANS INTERESTED IN ARE CONTAINED IN PROTOCOL THAT WOULD EXPIRE AFTER THREE YEARS. BROWN POINTED OUT THAT UNDER PROTOCOL, CRUISE MISSILES WITH RANGE IN EXCESS OF 360 MILES COULD NOT BE DEPLOYED, BUT UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 07 STATE 293048 TOSEC 120047

SINCE IT WILL TAKE THREE YEARS TO DEVELOP SUCH MISSILES, THERE IS NO INHIBITION ON WHAT US OR ALLIES COULD DO. EUROPEANS ALSO FEAR THAT IN THREE YEARS, WITH US IN ANOTHER ELECTION CAMPAIGN, THERE WILL BE GREAT DOMESTIC PRESSURE TO PERMANENTLY BAN CRUISE MISSILES.

-- ON NEUTRON WARHEAD, BROWN SAID ADMIN WAS GETTING FEEDBACK FROM EUROPEAN LEADERS AND CARTER WOULD CONSIDER THIS IN MAKING FINAL DECISIONS ON DEPLOYMENT. SEVERAL DELEGATES SAID PRIVATELY THAT MILITARY CONSENSUS HAD DEVELOPED THAT IT WAS GOOD WEAPON, BUT THAT POLITICAL PROBLEMS INVOLVED MADE IT SUBJECT TO DECISION AT HIGHEST LEVELS.

LA TIMES -- DON COOK FROM BRUSSELS

LEAD: "THE US FAILED TO FULLY CONVINCE ITS EUROPEAN ALLIES THIS WEEK THAT A PROJECT PROTOCOL TO A NEW SALT TREATY WITH MOSCOW WOULD NOT JEOPARDIZE EUROPE'S LONG-TERM SECURITY."

OTHER POINTS:

-- US REASSURANCES ACCEPTED AT FACE VALUE PUBLICLY BUT VIEWED WITH RESERVATIONS PRIVATELY.

-- VANCE ARRIVED, WENT DIRECTLY TO QUADRIPARTITE DINNER.

-- KEY NATO MEMBERS STILL CONCERNED THAT EUROPE MAY NEVER BE ABLE TO DEVELOP OR DEPLOY CRUISE MISSILE IF SALT ACCORD GOES THROUGH AS CURRENTLY DRAFTED.

-- BROWN TOLD PRESS CONF OPTION REMAINED OPEN.

-- IT WAS REPORTED THAT LEBER CAME DOWN HARD TO BROWN, SAYING WASHINGTON MUST BE PREPARED TO CHANGE CRUISE

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 08 STATE 293048 TOSEC 120047

MISSILE POLICY AT END OF 3-YEAR PROTOCOL. BRITISH WERE PUBLICLY AND POLITELY SKEPTICAL.

NY TIMES -- NO GWERTZMAN, FOLLOWING STORY WITHOUT BYLINE APPEARS PAGE 10.

LEAD: "EGYPTIAN AND ISRAELI OFFICIALS STARTED SECRET MEETINGS A FEW DAYS AGO AND ARE DISCUSSING SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS WITHOUT WAITING FOR THE CAIRO CONFERENCE TO OPEN, THE ISRAELI STATE TELEVISION REPORTED TONIGHT."

OTHER POINTS:

-- NO SOURCE GIVEN FOR INFORMATION. DISCUSSION SAID TO COVER FUTURE MIDEAST BORDERS, PALESTINIAN PROBLEM, SINAI, AND SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN ISRAEL AND ARABS.

-- OFFICIALS IN JERUSALEM DISCLAIMED KNOWLEDGE OF SUCH MEETINGS. BEGIN SAID AT BEN-GURION AIRPORT, "...IF YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT SECRET MEETINGS, HOW DO YOU EXPECT ME TO REVEAL THEM?"

-- TV REPORT SAID VARIOUS EXPERTS AND HIGH-RANKING OFFICIALS HAD TAKEN PART IN MEETINGS, WHICH TOOK PLACE SOMEWHERE IN MIDEAST AND WERE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE THROUGH CAIRO TALKS.

-- 7 OF 17 CABINET MEMBERS ABSENT FROM SUNDAY'S WEEKLY CABINET MEETING BECAUSE THEY WERE ABROAD. OF THE ABSENTEES, ONLY BEGIN HAS DIRECT FOREIGN POLICY RESPONSIBILITY. 3 WERE SAID TO BE IN US RAISING FUNDS, ONE IN WEST GERMANY AND ONE IN RUMANIA.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 09 STATE 293048 TOSEC 120047

-- BEGIN SAID LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION AT CAIRO CONF MIGHT BE RAISED, BUT IT WAS UP TO EGYPTIANS TO REVISE THEIR INVITATION.

RADIO - TV NETWORKS

CBS RADIO, HAL WALKER:

"SECRETARY VANCE BEGAN HIS DAY AT THE NATO HEADQUARTERS WITH A PRIVATE BREAKFAST WITH BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY DAVID OWEN. THE TWO DISCUSSED IN SOME DETAIL THE ANGLO-AMERICAN EFFORT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, AND ACCORDING TO A STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN TRAVELLING WITH THE

SECRETARY, GENERALLY AGREED THAT THEIR PLAN FOR EVENTUAL MAJORITY RULE IN RHODESIA IS STILL ALIVE DESPITE RECENT APPARENT SETBACKS. VANCE ALSO RECEIVED A DETAILED AND WHAT THE SPOKESMAN CALLED A PROFESSIONAL BRIEFING BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY HABIB ON HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH THE SOVIETS ABOUT CURRENT MIDDLE EAST INITIATIVES. HOWEVER, NEITHER VANCE NOR HABIB WOULD DISCUSS THE MIDDLE EAST HERE, SAYING THEY PREFERRED TO FOCUS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE EUROPEAN ALLIANCE.

ON NATO THE SECRETARY IN A SPEECH TO THE OTHER REPRESENTATIVES HERE REPEATED THE AMERICAN COMMITMENT TO A STRONG ALLIANCE AND RENEWED THE AMERICAN PLEDGE TO HELP STRENGTHEN THE ORGANIZATION'S MILITARY BUDGET. VANCE HAS SCHEDULED BACK-TO-BACK MEETINGS THIS EVENING WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM GREECE AND TURKEY WHERE DISCUSSIONS WILL CENTER ON THE QUESTION OF CYPRUS. BUT CLEARLY THE TARGET OF THE SECRETARY'S TRAVEL THIS WEEK IS THE MIDDLE EAST AND ALL OTHER ACTIVITIES ARE OVERSHADOWED BY THAT ISSUE." CHRISTOPHER

UNCLASSIFIED

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 22-Sep-1999 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, PRESS COMMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE293048
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: S/PRS:JMEDEIROS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D770456-1150
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197712111/baaaeupj.tel
Line Count: 348
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5df45dfc-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN PRS
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 7
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 119280
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MORNING TRAVELLING PRESS SUMMARY, DECEMBER 8
TAGS: SOPN, OVIP, US, (VANCE, CYRUS R)
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5df45dfc-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009